

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul D. Pyla on June 10, 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

2.1. In claim 2:

- a) line 1, "in" has been deleted;
- b) line 2, "step (c)" has been replaced with --step (b)--;
- c) line 2, "comprising" has been replaced with --and comprise--;
- d) line 3, "a" before "water-soluble" has been replaced with --the--.
- e) line 3, --(A)-- has been added after "substance".

2.2. In claim 8, lines 1-2, the phrase "detergent particles have 20% by weight or more of component (B)" has been replaced with --amount of component (B) is 20 parts by weight or more, based on 100 parts by weight of the base particles--

(support is found on page 15, lines 19-23).

2.3. In claim 9, line 1, "detergent" has been replaced with --base--

(support is found on page 4, lines 11-13; page 8, lines 15-18; page 36, lines 22-24).

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph and the rejections based upon France, Mort and Riddick are withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment. The remaining rejection based upon Kubota is likewise overcome because the resulting bulk density of the detergent particles in the process of Kubota which is 500 g/liter or more (see page 3, lines 36-43) is outside the scope of the present claims' bulk density range of 150 to 446 g/L. Accordingly, the subject matter, as a whole, would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the detergent art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lorna M. Douyon whose telephone number is 571-272-1313. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lorna M Douyon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796